

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of the claims in the application.

1. (Withdrawn.) A purified polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,
- b) a naturally-occurring amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,
- c) a biologically active fragment of the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and
- d) an immunogenic fragment of the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

2. (Withdrawn.) An isolated polypeptide of claim 1, having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claims 3-23 (Canceled.)

24. (Withdrawn.) A method of screening for a compound that specifically binds to the polypeptide of claim 1, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) combining the polypeptide of claim 1 with at least one test compound under suitable conditions, and
- b) detecting binding of the polypeptide of claim 1 to the test compound, thereby identifying a compound that specifically binds to the polypeptide of claim 1.

Claims 25-27 (Canceled.)

28. (Currently Amended.) An isolated antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of claim 1 comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- a) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2,

- b) a naturally-occurring amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, and
- c) an immunogenic fragment of at least 10 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said polypeptide generates an antibody that specifically binds to SEQ ID NO:2.

29. (Withdrawn.) A diagnostic test for a condition or disease associated with the expression of GIPL in a biological sample comprising the steps of:

- a) combining the biological sample with an antibody of claim 28, under conditions suitable for the antibody to bind the polypeptide and form an antibody:polypeptide complex; and
- b) detecting the complex, wherein the presence of the complex correlates with the presence of the polypeptide in the biological sample.

30. (Original.) The antibody of claim 28, wherein the antibody is:

- a) a chimeric antibody,
- b) a single chain antibody,
- c) a Fab fragment,
- d) a F(ab')₂ fragment, or
- e) a humanized antibody.

31. (Original.) A composition comprising an antibody of claim 28 and an acceptable excipient.

32. (Withdrawn.) A method of diagnosing a condition or disease associated with the expression of GIPL in a subject, comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of the composition of claim 31.

33. (Original.) A composition of claim 31, wherein the antibody is labeled.

34. (Withdrawn.) A method of diagnosing a condition or disease associated with the expression of GIPL in a subject, comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of the composition of claim 33.

35. (Previously Presented.) A method of preparing a polyclonal antibody with the specificity of the antibody of claim 28 comprising:

- a) immunizing an animal with a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or an immunogenic fragment thereof, under conditions to elicit an antibody response;
- b) isolating antibodies from said animal; and
- c) screening the isolated antibodies with the polypeptide, thereby identifying a polyclonal antibody which binds specifically to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

36. (Original.) An antibody produced by a method of claim 35.

37. (Original.) A composition comprising the antibody of claim 36 and a suitable carrier.

38. (Previously Presented.) A method of making a monoclonal antibody with the specificity of the antibody of claim 28 comprising:

- a) immunizing an animal with a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, or an immunogenic fragment thereof, under conditions to elicit an antibody response;
- b) isolating antibody producing cells from the animal;
- c) fusing the antibody producing cells with immortalized cells to form monoclonal antibody-producing hybridoma cells;
- d) culturing the hybridoma cells; and
- e) isolating from the culture monoclonal antibody which binds specifically to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

39. (Original.) A monoclonal antibody produced by a method of claim 38.

40. (Original.) A composition comprising the antibody of claim 39 and a suitable carrier.

41. (Original.) The antibody of claim 28, wherein the antibody is produced by screening a Fab expression library.

42. (Original.) The antibody of claim 28, wherein the antibody is produced by screening a recombinant immunoglobulin library.

43. (Withdrawn.) A method for detecting a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 in a sample, comprising the steps of:

a) incubating the antibody of claim 28 with a sample under conditions to allow specific binding of the antibody and the polypeptide; and

b) detecting specific binding, wherein specific binding indicates the presence of a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 in the sample.

44. (Withdrawn.) A method of purifying a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 from a sample, the method comprising:

a) incubating the antibody of claim 28 with a sample under conditions to allow specific binding of the antibody and the polypeptide; and

b) separating the antibody from the sample and obtaining the purified polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.